The Associated Charities, through its Georgetown branch, did good work in mak-ing some households happy. A number of deserving families, white and colored, were supplied with material for a good meal to-day, and in some cases more than sufficient fuel with which to cook it. So far as known, the duplications of charity dinners was reduced to a minimum this year, through the efforts of the association.

St. Vincent de Paul Society. The conference of the Society of St. Vin cent De Paul attached to Trinity Church did good work all day yesterday. Seventy families, containing in all 305 people, were supplied with good dinners for today. The denations were all made to deserving people regardless of creed or color. An appea to the members of the congregation for food, clothing and the like brought forth a hearty response, and the thanks of the paster and society were extended to all givers at the various services in the church this morning. One member of the congregation is reported to have given twenty full baskets, a turkey in each basket, besides other things that would help to make an appetizing meal.

The sewing club which occupies the old Taylor mansion, on M street, and which gives employment to a number of women who otherwise would be out of work, gave a dinner to the women in the rooms of the old building. It is needless to say that there was plenty to eat and the meal

heartily enjoyed.

A number of the churches looked after the poor members of the congregations, each church tending to its own poor. In some cases the donations were sent and the name of the sender was withheld, thus preventing the recipient from returning the goods through pride.

NOBEL PRIZES AWARDED.

First Distribution Under the Discoverer's Will.

United States Minister Thomas has reported to the State Department that events of unusual importance and interest took place, December 10, at Stockholm and at Christiania, in connection with the first award of the Nobel prizes. The distinguished scientist, Alfred Nobel, the discoverer of dynamite, who died five years ago, left substantially the whole of his vast fortune for the benefit of mankind, and in his will he directed that it be divided into prizes without regard to nationality, but that the worthiest be awarded the prize whether he is Scandinavian or not. These prizes consisted of five allotments, each of more than \$40,000, which Minister Thomas says in kind as well as in amount are unparalleled in the history of science, literature and humanity, being sufficient to place each recipient in independent circumstances and to permit him untrammeled to pursue his investigations and life work. awards were as follows: In physics, to Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen,

professor at the University of Munich, the discoverer of the Roentgen rays. In chemistry, to Jacobos Henricus Van't Hoff, professor at the University of Berlin. In medicine, to Emil von Behring, pro-fessor at Haile, the discoverer of the diph-In literature, to Sully-Prudhomme, mem-

ber of the French Academy.
In the works of peace, the prizes were divided between Frederick Passy, national omist of France, and Henri Dunant of Switzerland, the leading spirit in bringing about the Geneva convention, and in insti-tuting the societies of the Red Cross. The prize diplomas were awarded by the crown prince in person at Stockholm in the presence of a great gathering of distin-guished people, and at Christiania, the award was made by the Norwegian storting, conveyed in solemn session. Sully-Prudhomme was unable to attend by rea

PLEDGED BY THE PRISONERS.

Agreement Signed by the Filipinos on Guam Island.

A report has been received at the War Department in regard to the method of discipline employed in the case of the Filipino prisoners in exile on the Island of the Guam. These prisoners are required to a more thorough investigation. sign a contract, of which the following is

I hereby undertake, upon my word of honor, to conform to the following regulations during my stay in Guam:

1. I will hold no communication with any one outside the island whatsoever neither directly nor indirectly, neither will I assist others in this respect, except through the medium of the governor, during the time I am in enjoyment of the priv-

 I shall keep and maintain in an order-y state to the satisfaction of the governor, a house, and shall not change my residence from same without the latter's consent. I shall not go further than five kil-ometers from the said governor's house unless I have obtained special authority to do so when I should require to do so. 4. I shall remain indoors every morning

5. I shall also be in my quarters before midnight and undertake that my servants shall be indoors after 8:30 p.m. Clauses 6 and 7 deal with the manner in which intercourse between these political prisoners and the natives of the shall be regulated and with the question of withdrawal of any of the foregoing priv ileges in case the governor should see fit

TO GO TO THE CORONATION.

The President Has Not Decided Who Will Be Sent.

The question of who will represent the army and the navy at the coronation of King Edward VII has not yet been settled by the President. Indeed it is understood that he has not yet been invited to send representatives to that royal function. Some time ago there was a general impression that Admiral Dewey and General Miles, the ranking officers of the navy and the army. would go to London next summer as the representatives of both branches of the military service of the United States, but it is now stated that there never was any official foundation for such belief. probabilities are now strong that neither officer named will be selected for the service mentioned. Rear Admiral Crowninshield, chief of the bureau of navigation, will be in English waters in command of the European squadron at the time of the coronation ceremonies and therefore probably be directed to represent the United tates navy on that occasion. In case it is determined to send a special representative the emerald green of the branches? How of the army it is said to be probable that the silvery balls and the pearly strings of the honor will fall upon Adjutant General

FOR HOMESICK CADETS.

Theatricals at West Point Help to

Make Them Merry. A dispatch from West Point, N. Y., las night says: In Cullom Memorial Hall here tonight Mrs. Fay Bradley Shipman, wife of Rev. Herbert Shipman, post chaplain, gave her annual entertainment to the cadets who were unable to get Christmas leave of ab-

It included a one-act comedy sketch writ ten by Mrs. Shipman, entitled "A Little This was acted by Mrs. Shipman and Lieut. Jewell, Mrs. Shipman taking the part of Dorothea Standish, the little Puri-tan, and Lieut. Jewell that of Gordon West, a Harvard graduate, who is engaged to

After this Mrs. Shipman and Lieut. Jewell took seats in the audience and were con-gratulated. Then followed the profession-als, who had been procured from New

The cadets attended in a body, and occu pled the center of the hall, surrounded by the officers and their families. The adjutant and also Col. Mills, the superintendent of the post, were present.

Commander Clover Better. Commander Richardson Clover of the

navy, naval attache at London, who has been ill in this city since Sunday, is somewaat more comfortable

SAN FRANCISCO, December 25 .- The University of Michigan foot ball team, in charge of Coach Yost, has arrived in this

city en route to Pasadena, where it will

play the Leland Stanford, jr., University eleven on New Year day. The men will leave for southern California this evening.

George Klingler and a Woman Found Dead in a Hotel Room.

THE APARTMENT FILLED WITH GAS

Klingler Identified by Letters Found in His Possession.

ACTION OF THE CORONER

Coroner Nevitt was summoned to the Lyons Hotel, at No. 906 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, about 7 o'clock last night to view two dead forms in a room on the fourth floor of the building. One was the body of George A. Klingler, a coach painter, who came here a few weeks ago from Schenectady, N. Y.; the other was that of a woman well known about the city, but whose real name the police were unable to recall when they visited the hotel last night. The deaths had been caused by asphyxiation, and the poisonous gas was still pouring from a jet which had been open for hours. It is believed that the two unfortunates had long been dead, probably for twenty-four hours. The general condition of things about the room indicated that the couple had been imbibing rather freely, and it is supposed that one of them failed to properly adjust the gas fixture when extinguishing the light. William Klingler, a brother of the dead

man, who lives at 163 Clinton street, Schenectady. N. Y., was notified of the death. after a message had been received from William L. Campbell, chief of police of that city, telling that the mother, sister and brother of the deceased, lived there. The message from the brother requested that the body be shipped there to Undertakers Timeson and Frank.

It is learned that Klingler came here about three weeks ago and found employment at McDermott Bros.' carriage factory. For a short time he occupied a room with another man at a house on Missouri avenue, and after a few days he went to a D street hotel, where a fellow workman boarded. Sunday night he decided to move, and went to the Lyons Hotel, paying for his room in advance. As the hotel register had been left in the bar over Saturday night Klingler was unable to record his name. When he went to his room he requested that liquor be served, and when informed that the Sunday law would not be violated there, he went elsewhere for a supply.

Nothing Known of Subsequent Movements.

When he returned to the room is not known, and, so far as the police have been able to ascertain, nobody about the house saw him after he left to buy liquor Sunday night. Monday the room door was tried by a colored servant, but it was locked and the odor of gas was not then detected.

Having been unable to get in the room since Sunday, the colored man became alarmed and last night informed Mrs. Lyons. The latter went to the fourth floor and when she discovered that gas was escaping from the room she summoned Policemen Owens and Leavell, who forced open the door. Lying on the floor, with his face down, was the body of the man, and the woman's body was on the bed. Both were clad in underclothes only. The swol-len and discolored conditions of the bodies made it apparent that all signs of life had departed many hours before the door was

After the flow of gas had been stopped and the window opened the door was closed and nothing was touched until the arrival of the coroner, who later announced that he was satisfied the deaths were the result of an accident. He had the bodies sent to It was stated to the police that Klingle

had been drinking heavily for more than a week. Where he met the woman or when he took her to his room the police have not ascertained. The occupant of the adjoining room, but paid no attention to it.

Letters in His Possession.

Klingler's identity was made known by two letters found in his room. One was from his brother William and the other was from his sister Lena. In the letter from the former the unfortunate man was admonished about his inebriety and was told that he would be welcomed home and him of the hearty welcome which was in store for him. She told of a family reunion to be held New Year day, and concluded by wishing him a merry Christmas.

Inquest Not Necessary. Klingler was about thirty-eight years old. The woman, it is believed, was nearly twelve years his senior. Coroner Nevitt decided this afternoon that he would not hold an inquest in the case. Certificates showing that the deaths resulted from an

accident were given. The woman was short and stout. clothing consisted of a plaid jacket, which had evidently been worn beneath a red waist; a black skirt and a black hat trimmed with black feathers. At a late hour this afternoon her body had not been identified.

Orphan Tots Eat Turkey.

The fifty children at the German Orphan Asylum, on the Good Hope road, Anacostia were given a liberal turkey dinner today by Superintendent Ernest Schmid. They were also supplied generously with nuts and candies. The children will not hold their regular Christmas entertainment, however, until next Sunday, when elaborate exercises will take place.

Beauty of Evergreens.

From St. Nicholas. Not one word of argument to the young folks is needed to prove the open and wellknown beauty of the evergreen trees, especially at this season of the year. Indoors we have recently seen them, the most beautiful objects of the holidays. Was there ever anything more attractive than a Christmas tree, with its golden lights among the silvery balls and the pearly strings of popcorn glistened and became-well, almost as bright as our eyes as we viewed the packages! Or perhaps out of doors some of us have seen how true it is, after the first snow fall, that

protected, cozy ground underneath. We ad mired the Christmas tree indoors, deco rated by our grown-up friends, and we now admire, as well, those out-of-door Christmas trees decorated by the snow. The snowflakes may well be called nature's winter bloom of the evergreens. Under all conditions, especially in winter, the ever-greens are beautiful.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Among the games which seem to belong peculiarly to this season is that of snar dragon. It has been a Christmas pastim from time immemoriat, and is declared to have been invented by Hercules, who, when he "had slain the flaming dragon of Hesperia, made a flery dish of the apples grown in the orchard, which dish he named snap dragon." In the western counties of snap dragon. In the western counties of England they call the game flap dragon, and vary it a little. Instead of snatching for raisins through the flames of brandy which has been set on fire, a lighted candle is put into a vessel of ale or cider, efforts being then made to drink the liquid while the candle burns. Of course, the feat is not accomplished without the face being blackened at least. The more danger the more ened at least. The more danger the more

harm, however. Alexander Graham, a veteran of the civil war, visited New York to find old acquaint-ances, and failing, returned to his hotel and committed suicide.

DEATH BY ACCIDENT AFFAIRS IN ALEXANDRIA YE DO IT TO ME PRISONERS REMEMBERED CHRISTMAS MORN WAR-TIME CHRISTMAS

JOHN MILLS DROWNED ACCIDENT Little Ones Made Happy as the Mas-ALLY EARLY TODAY. ter Commanded. Death of Mr. Anthony W. Armstrong-

Christmas Trees and Presents at All the Institutions.

THEY CAME BRINGING GIFTS a telephone message was received at the station house announcing that there was a man overboard, and Officer Roberts was dispatched to the scene. He reached the trict. Toys were not wanting in any of homes, and in most of them there were evidences of visits of Santa Claus in

place just in time to witness the last struggles of the unfortunate man, but was unable to render him any assistance, as he sank a few seconds later. A few minutes after the body was recovered by Captain Masters of the tug Spray and Officers Davis, Knight and Beach. It was seen that life was extinct, and the remains were carried to Wheatley's undertaking rooms on King street and prepared for burial. Coroner William R. Purvis said this morning that as the case was evidently one of accident he thought an inquest would not be

Action of Ray Association-

Mrs. Johnson Dead.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., December 25, 1901.

John Mills, known among his friends as

"Plunk" Mills, was accidentally drowned

this morning about 2:40 o'clock in the Po-

tomac near Reardon's wharf. At that time

Evening Star Bureau, No. 701 King Street, Bell Telephone No. 106.

necessary. Mr. Cravan Peyton was with Mills at the time of the fafal accident, but was unable to rescue him from the water. The deceased was about thirty-five years of age and unmarried. His home was on lower Prince street. The funeral arrangements will be made later.

Death of Mr. Armstrong.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Anthony W. Armstrong, which occurred about 6 o'clock yesterday evening at his home, No. 511 Prince street, came as a great shock to the community. Mr. Armstrong had been ill only a week and his death was entirely unexpected to the public. His family was at his bedside when the end came. Death was due to Bright's dis-

The deceased was one of the leading law yers of this city, being well known also throughout Virginia. He was born in Alexandria and was a son of the late John Thompson Armstrong. At an early age h graduated with honors from St. John's Military Academy here. Later he commenced the study of law at the National Law School in Washington, where he graduated. Soon after he commenced the practice of his profession. He held the office of deputy city sheriff for some time and later was elected chairman of the city republican committee.

Mr. Armstrong had not taken an active part in politics in recent years, devoting his time to the practice of his profession. Lately he frequently acted in the capacity of mmonwealth attorney during the absence of Commonwealth Attorney Leonard Mar-bury. The deceased has been connected with many of the most important civil cases in the courts of this section. He was also well known as an attorney out of the state. Mr. Armstrong was about forty-five years of age, and is survived by a widow and two children-Miss Jessie Vickroy Armstrong and Anthony George Armstrong. The Bar Association of Alexandria met this morning in the office of Judge J. K. M. Norton, on Fairfax street, and adopted resolutions appropriate to the memory of the deceased attorney. The members will attend the funeral, arrangements for which have not yet been completed.

Mrs. Johnson's Death.

Mrs. Johnson, wife of Commonwealth's Attorney Richard W. Johnson of Alexandria county, died suddenly about 12 o'clock last night at her home on Columbia pike, near Arlington, in the county. The deceased is survived by her husband and four children. Mr. Johnson is in South Carolina for the benefit of his health, and has been telegraphed to concerning his wife's death. Mrs. Johnson was apparently vesterday. She went to Washington to do ome shopping in the afternoon and came home seeming to be in good health. Her sudden death was a shock to a large circle of friends. Funeral arrangements will be made later.

Minor News Matters.

Judge J. K. M. Norton of the corporation court has granted a charter to the Moore Hill Company of Washington, D. C., the objects of which are to conduct a general real estate business. The sum of \$50,000 is named as the capital stock. D. A. Moore is president and W. A. Hill is vice president, both of Washington. Gardner L

Boothe is named as local attorney. The alarm of fire at about 6:30 oclock last evening was caused by the explosion of a tank of gasoline in the grocery store of O. J. Nugent, 1301 King street. The entire fire department responded, and in a few minutes the flames were extinguished by a chemical extinguisher. The damage slight. It is supposed that some one threw a lighted match into the tank.

Samuel H. Lunt, auctioneer, yesterday old at public auction five lots of ground in West End to Arthur Brown for the sum of \$1,000, and also a house and lot to Mrs. A.

The Sunday school of the Immanuel Lutheran Church will hold their Christmas entertainment in that church at 7:30 o'clock tonight. A special program has been prepared for the occasion.

MANAGERS TALK MORE PAY.

Eastern Railroads May Be Affected by New Movement.

A dispatch from Chicago yesterday says: At a meeting of the General Managers' Association, held here today, a movement was started which may result in a general increase in the wages of trainmen, enginemen, firemen and switchmen on all the big railroad systems east of Chicago. The meeting was called at the request of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the causes being the coal shortage in Chicago and other cities, shortage of cars and power and the congested condition of traffic in general. The coal situation, however, was the moving cause for the meeting, and a discussion regarding it led to a canvass of the entire

situation. In the opinion of a majority of the general managers the congestion is due, in a measure, to inefficiency of the service ren-dered by employes, and this view led into tion. Although no formal resolution was passed on the subject, it was generally agreed that an increase in the wages of employes would do much toward stimulating them to better work, which in turn would help relieve congested conditions.

first snow fall, that

Every pine and fir and hemlock

Wore ermine too dear for an earl.

The branches had held all the snow that fell in that place. A heavy load it was, as their bowing down toid us; but it was a burden well borne for the good of othersfor the birds and rabbits that enjoyed the protected, cozy ground underneath. We admired the Christmas tree indoors decorailroading west of Chicago meant taking big chances. The general managers of Chibig chances. The general managers of Uni-cago are of the opinion that now is the time to make a concerted action to even up wages all over the country. Holding this view of the situation an effort will be made, it is said, to induce the managers of the eastern lines to grant such increases in wages as will bring them on a parity with the wages paid in the west. Should this be brought about, several hundred thousand men will receive increases, and the pay rolls of the eastern roads, taken as a whole will be increased several million dollars.

> Last of a Desperate Gang in Custody. Chief Cleary of Rochester, N. Y., received a dispatch yesterday from Sheriff Little of Frankfort, Benzie county, Mich., saying that a man named Frank McMahon, alias McNamara, had been arrested there. He is charged with being the third and the last of a gang of robbers who entered the house of Mrs. Louisa French in Rochester last October, horribly beat Mrs. French and her sister, Mrs. Alicia Gardner, and robbed them of diamonds valued at \$3,000.

NEW YORK, December 25 .- Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel Corporation, will sail for Europe tomorrow on La Savole of the French line. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Schwab and has planned to remain abroad for two

ORPHANS WERE REMEMBERED

Christmas was a day of joy in the institutions for the care of children in the Dis-

the form of prettily trimmed trees. The Children's Hospital ushered in the day without unfavorable indications in the cases of the scores of little sufferers from various diseases that are being cared for there. The feativities connected with the Christmas tree were postponed this year, and a tree will be provided before the end of the holiday season. But there was a toy for every one of the more than seventy

condition. There was a good Christmas dinner abundant proportions, and little boys and girls sat up in bed and enjoyed the tooth-some viands, while they occasionally cast their eyes toward the playthings they had laid aside for a time. It was not necessary to purchase toys, as an abundance of them had been contributed by friends of the in-

children who were ill or in a convalescent

At St. Joseph's.

At St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum the scores of boys from seven to fourteen years of age were hilarious after they had enjoyed a turkey dinner and were gathered in their play room. Some blew horns, others looked at picture books, while the vocal organs of many who preferred to sing or shout were

They all had toys that had been sent in by patrons of the house, as was the case with the turkey. In about a month the swimming tank and gymnasium that is in course of construction will be opened. The holiday treat given the orphan boys annually by Mrs. James F. Barbour will take place in a few days, when toys and good things to eat that are in keeping with the season will be bountifully supplied.

At St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum, which now is located in the country near the Catholic University, the girls had a splendidly trimmed tree and dolls and other

gifts that delight the childish feminine heart. There, too, charitably disposed friends had sent an abundance of candy and toys to supply all the little girls. The little tots, all under seven years of age, who are taken care of at St. Ann's

age, who are taken care of at St. And s Infant Asylum, gloried in the possession of two trees, one for the boys and one for the girls. They all had an early breakfast, in order that they might view the beautiful trees and start their day of play. That brought their dinner hour very early, so brought their dinner hour very early, so that by 11 o'clock they had finished their repast and were again playing under the Christmas trees. Some pulled wagons and horses about, little girls hugged their dolls closely to their sides and boys blew tin horns, according to their liking. The Washington Orphan Asylum was also

a scene of joyous celebration of the day. The institution did not find it necessary to purchase either turkeys or toys, as these necessities of the occasion had all been provided by thoughtful friends. The and girls had numerous visitors during the day, friends and relatives of many of them calling to bring gifts.

FRAUD WAS PRACTICED

JOHN C. SIMMERING OF MARYLAND MAKES THIS CHARGE.

Says Democrats Burglarized State by Means of Trick Ballots in

Mr. John C. Simmering, chairman of the committee on illiteracy of the Maryland republican state central committee, has for mulated a table showing the claims of the committee that the party at the recent election was "burglarized" of what was its just rights. The table is interesting for the student of Maryland politics. In it will be found the number of ballots counted, the majority each party received at the last election held under the law that the special session of the legislature repealed. the number of rejected ballots at the last election, the majority returned for the democratic candidates for the legislature in the counties where the trick ballots were used, or hybrid independent republican tickets placed on the official ballot, the percentage of the votes rejected as compared with the votes counted (and this is of the most important of all), the percentage of registered voters in 1899 that could not write their names and the total vote cast at the last five elections in which the parties in the state, as a whole, voted for the

same candidates.

Mr. Simmering shows that a change of three votes in Caroline county, where 395 votes were rejected, would have elected a republican member of the assembly; a change of eight votes in Carroll county 497 rejected, would have elected another; change of fourteen in the second district of Baltimore city, 32,000 votes cast, and 2,000 rejected, would have elected another; a change of twenty-three votes in either Mary's, Somerset or Talbot counties, in which there were rejected, respectively 838, 1,078 and 550, would have elected member from each county, or, in other vords, a gain of ninety-one votes for 3,900 rejected ballots, or a change of forty-eight

would have given the house of delegates to the republicans. "The illiteracy of the registered voters of Prince George's county," Mr. Simming says, "is 30 per cent, and that of Queen Anne county 32 per cent, yet the farmers of the firfist named county had over 32 per cent of the rejected ballots as compared with or the rejected ballots as compared with the counted ballots, while the latter county had only \$\frac{3}{2}\$ per cent. Prince George's county had a counterfeit republican independent ticket, while Queen Anne, a strongly democratic county, had nothing but the election law with which to contend. The rural population cannot learn too much about the fraudulency of the late election.

"The veters of the state were victimized," he says, "not in proportion to their illiteracy, but the ratio is relative to the unlawful and abhorrent methods practiced, as for example: Calvert county's ticket was but the official ballots handed to the on election day in Calvert and St. Mary' countles were the greatest monstrosities in the way of ballots that have ever been placed before American citizens to vote.
"The extent of the disfranchisement is seen at a glance when it is remembered that the greatest difference in any of the five prior elections between the registered vote and the ballots counted at the election vote and the ballots counted at the election had been 30,000, but at the last election it amounted to the enormous sum of more than 85,000."

The pluralities of the democratic legislative candidates were as follows: St. Mary's, the two candidates for the house had 44 and

97, while the candidate for senator had 106 97, while the candidate for senator had 106; in Prince George's the three candidate for thehouse had, respectively, 74, 133 and 238, while the candidate for senator had 34; Somerset, 44; Charles, three candidates had, respectively, 305, 356 and 461; Anne Arundel, 548; Talbot, 73; Wicomico, 4; Caroline, 50; Frederick, 125; Harford, 172; Cecil, 248; Washington, 14; Caroli county, three care. Washington, 14; Carroll county, three candidates had, respectively, 74, 26 and 110; Baltimore city, 125. In Montgomery county, Worcester, Howard and Baltimore county, les there were small pluralities for

John P. Elgin, nineteen years old, of 115 Bd street southeast, fell while getting off a street car near his home last night and was cut about the head. He was removed to his

School-The Boys Were All

Given Something.

Those unfortunates in the District of Co-

liberty, having reached that state through

due process of law, did not fare so badly

imagined. For instance, at the Washing-

ton Asylum and workhouse a dinner and a

supper each calculated to tempt an ordi-

narily hungry epicure were on the program

mates visited them at the institution dur-ing the day, and each carried a remem-

made to the regular bill of fare of the jail.

mitted, and as no services were held the

day was a quiet one within the sombre brownstone walls. A religious organiza-

tion supplied the prisoners with tobacco

There is no reason to doubt that every

turkey having occupied a similar position

and butter, cake and oranges, and the

to bed supremely happy.

At the reform school for girls the inmates were reminded of the significance of

the day by appropriate and substantial ad-

cluding dainties. Gifts were also received.

TO ENFORCE CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Increase of Inspection Division a

The New York Herald of today says:

Port of New York.

Details of the plans for the reorganiza-

tion and extension of the inquisitorial

method of examining baggage of incoming

transatlantic voyagers show that while the

customs service may extract a few more

dollars, perhaps, it will add vastly to the

By the formation of an entirely new di-

vision of inspectors, as announced yester-

day, it appears now that even pins will be

will be regarded as a rare seizure. Per-

sons whose wardrobes consist of more than

\$100 worth of clothing will be pursued as plutocrats, and steerage passengers will be

held to strict account for their blankets.

Trunks will be opened and their contents evenly distributed over the splintered floor-

ings of the steamer piers with even more zeal than has been displayed.

Divisions formerly known as the third and fifth divisions have been merged into

a new one, called the third, and from the second division of the custom house has

preserves the integrity of the numbers, and

it will make life miserable for the hordes of unsuspecting tourists and citizens. It is

to make the newly arrived passengers feel

so small that they are in danger of slipping

off the vessel into the river before they

Many young women art students, who have been in Paris for two years, are con-

fronted on their return by the inquisitors

and many of them have actually been com-

pelled to pay duties on articles which they

were bringing home as relics of the Quar-

tier Latin or to serve as the basis for crazy

Among the measures which the newly or-

ganized fifth division will enforce more

repairing of garments. Under the treasury

rulings on a garment remodeled in Europe duties must be paid upon it as though it were just fashioned. The made-over gown

is generally not considered as good as new

but the experts of the fifth division will

hear no feminine arguments and no pro-testations on that subject.

Among the articles which will be espe-cially watched by the customs officers un-

der the new division will be the cameras

Tourists who come here to take snapshots of Niagara Falls and of the Statue of Lib-

erty find that they must pay a heavy duty

this country on shooting trips have on

more than one occasion found the customs

a source of annoyance. Not long ago a

party of French noblemen reached this port on their way to the northwest. They had

with them guns from the best makers of France. The rate of duty on the weapons

was so high that the hunters asked an ex

Finally, upon the advice of one who was

familiar with the customs, they got per-

them to a second-hand dealer. The guns which they used here cost them about 35

per cent of the amount which they would have paid in duty.

These instances are only a few examples of the manner in which the inquisition of the customs will be continued under the auspices of the fifth division.

SUNDAY QUIET PERVADES.

Noticeable Absence of People on the

Streets Today.

Nothing perhaps has exemplified the fac

that Washington is not only the most order-

ly and best governed city in the United

States than the quiet way that its citizens

The police report that with the exception

has been no flagrant violation of the law.

The day has resembled Sunday in many

respects, so quiet have the streets appear-

ed. In the early morning hours the Ave-

nue and a portion of F street, usually busy

About noon, however, these streets took

on a more animated appearance, but the

contrast to yesterday, when they were crowded with shoppers, was most marked. Almost every person seen on the streets today wore a happy expression, and the greetings of the season were freely exchanged in a manner that indicated sin-

cerity.

The day was given over to family reunions, where the members of various
homesteads gathered around the festive
board, and the utmost good cheer prevalled.

The children were perhaps the happiest creatures to be imagined, and reveled in the gifts that Santa Claus had, with his accustomed generosity, bestowed upon them.

The hotels were almost as deserted as

celebrate Christmas.

mission to send back the guns. Then purchased what firearms they required in this country, and before their return sold

on cameras of foreign make.

strictly are the rules which pertain to the

realize their peril.

appraised and an undeclared toothpick

present horrors of arriving.

ditions to the ordinary food supplies, in-

and fruit.

UNFORTUNATES IN JAIL AND WORK-Welcomed by Blowing of Horns and HOUSE GIVEN TOUCH OF XMAS. Ringing of Bells. Exercises and Dinner at the Reform

CROWDS THRONGED THE STREETS

Every Age, Station and Calling lumbia who today are deprived of their Represented. regarding Christmas cheer as might be

> HAPPY CHILDREN

The dinner was served at noon to the in-"Twas the night before Christmas." mates and employes, in all numbering fully True to the time-honored legend, the reat, 700 persons. Supper is scheduled for 5 un-to-date, twentieth century Santa Claus, o'clock. The menu for the dinner embracwith rotund stomach, twinkling eve and uled roast turkey with cranberry sauce, roast tra benevolent mood, made his entrance pig, sweet potatoes, pickled beets, boiled upon the stage of happiness and good cheer onions, celery, mince ple, apples and oranges. For supper the spread will consist of bread and butter, cheese, pickles, stewed peaches and fruit cake. A large last night and bade the festivities incident to Yuletide begin. His coming had been anxiously anticinumber of relatives and friends of the in-

pated and waited for for weeks by many hundred scores of young tots who surround this mythological personage with all the traditions that have come down to them through the ages. But times change and men change with

ing the day, and each carried a remembrance of some sort.

The captain of the watch on duty at the District jail had his hands full today taking in gifts for the prisoners. These consisted mostly of food. The men and women behind the bars were permitted to receive anything eatable with the exception of pies, cake and candy. No additions were made to the regular bill of fare of the jail. them, and why not this benevolent old gentleman ensconced in furs and mystery? Santa Claus is nothing if he is not energetic and ambitious. It is, therefore, ridicu-Only in exceptional cases were visitors adlous to suppose that he entirely disregarded the march of progress and its many startling and time-saving devices of locomotion and clung to his traditional reindeer and

familiar old sleigh. And, again, the ab

of snow and ice at this season precluded

such a method of making his rounds. So attired in heavy furs and other character-

boy at the reform school on the Bladensstic toggery befitting his exhalted position, burg road will recall Christmas, 1901, with he undoubtedly dispensed his souvenirs of the joyous season by an entirely different means from that which has been his wont the most pleasant recollections. The celebration began last evening with a musical in the "dark ages" of preceding years. and literary entertainment, several mem-It is not known whether the good old man emulated the example set him by bers of the board of trustees and other visitors being present. Each of the several Santos Dumont and circumnavigated the numbers comprising the program was hugely enjoyed. The feature of the evening atmosphere by means of the seemingly paradoxical airship or took a more practical, if not terrestrial, view of the situa perhaps was the bestowal of presents from a gorgeously bedecked tree. Balls and bats, tion and made his visits in a wagonette propelled by either steam or electricity. horns, tops and games were distributed.

A short service was held this morning Certain it is, if he employed either means in the chapel, in connection with which homes visited in such a limited time each boy was presented with a pound of

he far excelled in speed either the record made by the inventive Brazilian when he candy, the name of the recipient being in-scribed on the box. Roast pig was the cencircled the Eiffel tower or the perform-ances of Fournier, the fast-flying Frenchtral figure of the spread at dinner today, Thanksgiving day. Sweet potatoes, cold slaw and bread and butter were served man, with the automobile Sweet potatoes, cold Royally Received. with the pig. For supper this evening the boys will be offered tea and milk, bread Leaving for the nonce Santa's method of

dispensing cheer, it is certain that the reception accorded him by the denizens of the national capital on his arrival last night was of no mean order.

The past coronations of rulers and the magnificent ovations that have greeted the return home of triumphant conquerors paled into insignificance in comparison to the welcome accorded the traditional Yuletide saint.
Sounding brass and tinkling cymbal was

as a sweet zephyr compared to last night's noisy demonstration. It was veritable pandemonium broke loose. Noise reigned su-preme while folly held its court. Never beore have the city's streets presented a more animated appearance. They were crowded with joyous humanity from early morning until the church chimes at midnight range out in joyous peals the approach of the anniversary of the day when nineteen hundred and one years ago a child was born in Bethlehem, whose mission was echoed in the refrain of the angels who sang at his birth-"Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward

The throngs of merrymakers on the streets yesterday seemed to re-echo the sentiments voiced so many years ago. There was happiness written on every face of the thousands who pushed and jostled each other good-naturedly on the busy thoroughfares and marts of trade.

The Varying Crowds.

Seventh street. Pennsylvania avenue and portions of F street were well-nigh impassable, so dense were the throngs. Caste and station were for the time completely ignored. Rich and poor, prince and pauper, jostled elbows.

been taken a rib or two, which is now known as the fifth division. The new name All ages were represented in the crowd from the prattling child to the old sire the intention to have more deputy collec-tors, who will ask the questions which tend whose tottering footsteps, white locks and bent frame indicated the touch of the noary hand of time-a veritable antithesis; the giggling schoolgirl, with ruddy cheeks and bubbling over with enthusiasm; ambitious youth trudging by her side, casting sidelong looks of love, with heart aflame and pockets depleted—an exemplification of cause an effect.

> The debutante, swagger, chic, entrancing, a confection in laces, furbelows and furs. with walk a la Du Barry, the latest fad in pedestrian accomplishments, with visions perhaps of ardent suitors bringing titles and coronets from across the seas, haps, to cast before her shrine. The blas clubman near her, correct in all sartorial appointments, a squire of dames, putting side recollections of the anise bag and the huntsman's horn, conjuring up more timely thoughts of what to give to make "my lady

The matron, an anxious mamma, with several buds soon to blossom on fashion's tree; the business man, the clerk, each forgetting for the time the cares and perplex-ities incident to their respective callings; the vendor of numerous wares to catch the elusive coin of the passerby, and, last of all, the mendicant, pleading, fawning for alms to make happy at heart one day in the year—a sad, but ever-present, reminder of the unequal distribution of riches. In all a vivid representation of Shakerasaria all, a vivid representation of Shakespeare's "Seven Ages," moving in rapid panorama before the eye, all on shopping bent. The air was redolent with the odor of holly and mistletoe, emblems of the festival

early, much earlier perhaps than was their usual custom, and were soon in the land of "Nod," with thoughts of Santa Claus, while angels kept vigil, caused many a smile to unconsciously creep over their young faces while they slept. Near by yawning stockings hung by the fireside, placed there by dimpled hands before the sand man had made his rounds. Stockings to be filled by one so dear to their young hearts to emblemize the birth of a Christ who said, "Suffer little children to come heaven.

In Noisy Mood. After nightfall the throngs strolled up

the streets blowing horns, ringing bells and in a hundred different ways giving noisy demonstrations of their happiness. At midnight there seemed to be no decrease in the din. The trumpeters brought their instruments into play at this time and the shrill note of the bugle mingled with the less musical sound of the tin horn. As the morning hours wore on the noisemakers retired one by one, and finally the city settled down to slumber to await the dawn and to renew again the observances of the of a few arrests for intoxication, that there

> Struck by an Express Train. George Baker, a resident of Philadelphia

is a patient at the Casualty Hospital. He is suffering from a broken arm. The injury was inflicted last night while Baker was at Benning waiting for a train, on which he was going to Bowie station. He was struck by an express train and in-jured. He reached here yesterday from Norfolk and had been visiting friends near

Held for Action of Grand Jury. Frank Hopkins and Charles Anderson

both colored, waived an examination in the Police Court today on a charge of highway robbery. Judge Scott fixed ball at \$500 each until the case can be heard by the grand jury. It is alleged that the men held up Charles Jordan of the Central Union Mission last night.

The hotels were almost as deserted as the streets, and but few people were to be seen in the lobbies. It seemed as if every one who patronizes hotels, even the ifinerant traveling man, had forsaken their usual haunts and gone home, many to distant places, to spend the joyous day with their families.

A number of social functions are scheduled to take place tonight, and the evening, as a rule, will be given over to dancing and merriment. The condition of Adjutant General Sea nans of California is much improved today, but he is still confined to his room at the

Donation for Charity.

H. C. Wells has sent \$2 to The Star for the Associated Charities.

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GENS. HAMPTON AND CAPERS TELL INTERESTING STORIES.

Soldiers in a Snow Battle-A Dinner of Turnip Soup and Cold

A special dispatch to the Baltimore Sun from Columbia, S. C., yesterday, says: Christmas this year will be especially happy for Gen. Wade Hampton, whose home is here; for during the year just ended there have been many manifestations of popular love and veneration for the soldier-

"There was never any fighting on Christmas day during the civil war," said Gen. Hampton, when asked for some reminiscences. "It has been a long time ago, and I cannot remember much of those Christmas times. We of the army had other things to occupy our attention. But Christmas was one day on which there was no fighting. The men received messages and boxes from home, and camp life got an inspiration on that day.
"I remember that on one Christmas the

ground was covered with snow. The men ranged themselves on sides like schoolboys, and a tremendous battle ensued. For a long time the contest raged. The lines charged and were broken, formed again and endeavored to execute strategic movements. Finally the sport became so ex-citing and so spirited that two men had their arms broken, and I had to go into the fight and declare a truce."

Gen. Capers Tells Reminiscences. Bishop Ellison Capers, whose home is also

here and who rose to the rank of brigadier general in the civil war, has not pleasant recollections of Christmas in war times. When asked for some reminiscences the head of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of South Carolina said:

"From the earliest colonial days in south Georgia Christmas has been the time of family reunion and family fellowship; especially has this been the case in the low country of the state. At the old plantation homes it was common for three and often four generations to meet at Christ-mas. But the civil war put an end to all "After the first battle of Manassas open-

ed the great drama there were no young men left to greet their parents and grand-parents at Christmas at the old home. Mothers, sisters and wives were too busy making comforts for the soldiers in the field to enter into the joyous festivities of "I doubt if any family in the south enjoyed a real Christmas reunion during the war. The Christmas of 1860 was too full

of uncertainty and intense excitement to be enjoyed as a happy family festival. All succeeding war-time Christmases were too full of sorrow for the dead and sadness and anxiety for the living to be days of joy and family happiness. Turnip Soup and Hominy.

"While an officer of the confederate army never spent a Christmas at home during

the war. The Christmas of 1861 was spent on' a scout on Seabrook's Island locating the exact position of a federal gunboat in the mouth of the North Edisto river, with a view to an attack upon her early on the morning of the 26th. It was late on the afternoon of Christmas before I crossed from Seabrook's to John's Island, and I recall distinctly contrasting my hunger of that afternoon and my dinner with the feasting and the joy of other days.

"Passing the cabin of an old negro on the piantation of Mr. Washington Seabrook, I stopped and wasked the old 'mammy,' who was seated in her door smoking her pire.

was seated in her door smoking her pipe, if she could not give me something to eat. She promptly replied that she had nothing but some turnip soup and cold hominy, but that was not 'fitten for you, mossa, an e Cris-mass, too.' I dismounted and, handing the good old 'mammy' a quarter, ate her turnip soup and cold hominy with a relish that I can never forget that I can never forget.

Southern Homes Were Anxious. Meanwhile what of the family at home The old folks were there, but there was no merry-making. The men of middle age and the young men were all in Virginia, or on the coast, or in the army of the west, and the thought of the old home was with them. From every such home the Christ-mas box had been filled to overflowing and had gone to the front. The arrival of the daily paper from Charleston was matter of more intense interest than any thing else, and if the news was of ap were commended to the God of their pa

triot fathers with the confidence of a certain faith in His protecting providence. of the south were taxed to the utmost to maintain our men in the field, and when from every home one or more was missed, never again to meet at Christmas time with those who mourned them, there was

made it more a quiet, loving commemoration of the heroes of the home than a great festival of happiness and joy.
"The Christmas of 1864 in South The Christmas of 1804 in court care-line was a day of solemn commemoration for the dead and anxious prayer for the living. Little children, light-hearted and free from care, were happy, but their el-ders were contemplating the destruction of their homes and the ruin of their state. The devastating march of Sherman through Georgia had prepared the people of South Carolina to look for a like fate. Without an adequate force to oppose his army the Christmas that was before them was to be a day of their bitterest trial. Never be fore, nor since, was there such a Christmas in our old state. The old homes in the low country were deserted, and the torches that were to fire them were being lighted by thousands of willing hands."

The Recording of Deeds To the Editor of The Evening Star:

Now that Mr. Cheatham has resigned and

his successor is selected, and the District of Columbia is charged with the maintenance of another imported recorder of deeds attention should be called to the deplorable state of the land records shortly to pass into the custody of Mr. Dancy. The preservation of these volumes, about twentyseven hundred in number, containing the record of every conveyance of land within the District of Columbia, from the beginning in 1791, is a matter of concern to every citizen. Owing to the fact that those who have been responsible for these records were, until a recent date, allowed as their compensation, all fees collected, little more than the minimum amounts required to keep up current work has been expended keep up current work has been expended on the office. Since 1885, the position has been filled by a succession of recorders from Kansas, North Carolina and other foreign localities, whose interests were in nowise identified with local affairs, and who, with one exception, gave little or no personal attention to the conduct of the office. One of the earliest books, some years ago, became so dilapidated and worn by constant use that it could no longer be handled. An attempt was made to copy it, but too late. Portions were so worn that they could not be reproduced, and the copy is imperfect. Other early books will suffer a similar fate unless some step toward their a similar fate unless some step toward their preservation is taken at an early date. Numerous instances occur of single pages partially destroyed by constant reference. In the matter of binding, little more than patchwork has replaced the natural inroads of time, and there are many specimens that resemble more the handlwork of a cobbler than a bookbinder. Coming to a later period, when aniline ink was first ina coppier than a bookenneer. Coming to a later period, when aniline ink was first in-troduced, there are many books in which the writing is rapidly fading and will in time disappear. In many cases the pen-manship is miserable, and the comparison has been carelessly done. A number of in-stances have occurred where material parts of conveyances have been entirely left out of the record, although they appeared on the originals. These are the conditions,

existing law the duties of the recorder are but vaguely defined, and he does not ap to be accountable to any one except i office are concerned. The code to go into effect January 1, 1902, is even less explicit. No bond for the faithful performance of the duties of the office is required, and no means of redress provided for any one injured by reason of improper or careless recording. With the shortened forms of conveyances provided in the code, the fees, as fixed, will not provide sufficient revenue. to meet expenses. An appeal for relief will have to be made to Congress at an early date. When this is done the whole matter should be gone into and a law enacting the office on a different and m